

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 36 (Cancelled).

37. (New) A data transmission cable adapted for use in a system for determining a connection pattern of data ports, said data transmission cable comprising:

a jack at each end of said cable, each of said jacks adapted to mate with a corresponding socket of a data port;

an adapter jacket at each end of said cable, each of said adapter jackets comprising an electrical contact external to said data transmission cable, said contacts adapted to make electrical contact with a corresponding socket contact when said jacks are mated with said sockets, and

a conductor extending between, and electrically connected to, each of said adapter jacket electrical contacts.

38. (New) The data transmission cable according to claim 37, wherein said adapter jackets are separate from said cable and are constructed so as to be retrofit over an existing data transmission cable.

39. (New) The data transmission cable according to claim 37, wherein said electrical contact comprises a contact pin slidably engaged in a barrel and a spring adapted to fit within said barrel and designed to support said contact pin and provide tension to said contact pin when said contact pin makes electrical contact with a corresponding socket contact.

40. (New) The data transmission cable according to claim 37, wherein said conductor is a copper wire.

41. (New) The data transmission cable according to claim 39, wherein said conductor is electrically isolated from said data transmission cable.

42. (New) The data transmission cable according to claim 37, wherein said data transmission cable is a conventional multiconductor cable.

43. (New) The data transmission cable according to claim 37, wherein each of said jacks are selected from the group of jacks consisting of RJ45 jacks, RJ11 jacks, RJ12 jacks, RJ14 jacks, RJ25 jacks, RJ48 jacks, BNC jacks, SC jacks and ST jacks.

44. (New) An adapter jacket for use with a data transmission cable, said adapter jacket adapted to be positioned proximate an end of said data transmission cable, said adapter jacket comprising an electrical contact and a conductor electrically connected to said contact.

45. (New) The adapter jacket according to claim 44, wherein said electrical contact is positioned so as to electrically contact a corresponding socket contact when said data transmission cable is mated with a corresponding socket of a data port.

46. (New) The adapter jacket according to claim 44, wherein said electrical contact comprises a movable contact pin slidably engaged within said adapter jacket.

47. (New) The adapter jacket according to claim 46 further comprising a barrel and a spring adapted to fit within said barrel and designed to support said contact pin and provide tension to said contact pin when said contact pin makes electrical contact with a corresponding socket contact.

48. (New) The adapter jacket according to claim 44, wherein said data transmission cable is a conventional multiconductor cable having a plurality of conductors therein and

wherein said conductor connected to said contact is independent of said plurality of conductors within said multiconductor cable.

49. (New) A data transmission cable adapted for use in a system for determining a connection pattern of data ports, said data transmission cable comprising:

a jack at each end of said cable, each of said jacks adapted to mate with a corresponding socket of a data port;

an adapter jacket at each end of said cable, each of said adapter jackets comprising an electrical contact external to said data transmission cable and adapted to make electrical contact with a corresponding socket contact when said jacks are mated with said sockets, wherein said electrical contact comprises a contact pin slidably engaged in a barrel and a spring adapted to fit within said barrel and designed to support said contact pin and provide tension to said contact pin when said contact pin makes electrical contact with said corresponding socket; and

a conductor extending between, and electrically connected to, each of said contact pins.

49. (New) A jack adapted to mated with a corresponding socket of a data port in a system for determining a connection pattern of data ports, said jack comprising:

a barrel internal to said jack;

a contact pin slidably engaged in said barrel and adapted to make electrical contact with a corresponding socket contact when said jack is mated with said socket; and

a spring adapted to support said contact pin and provide tension to said contact pin when said contact pin makes electrical contact with said corresponding socket.